

World Religions

Timeline

Judaism

Christianity



2000BCE

1000BCE

500BCE 0

500CE



Hinduism

Confucianism

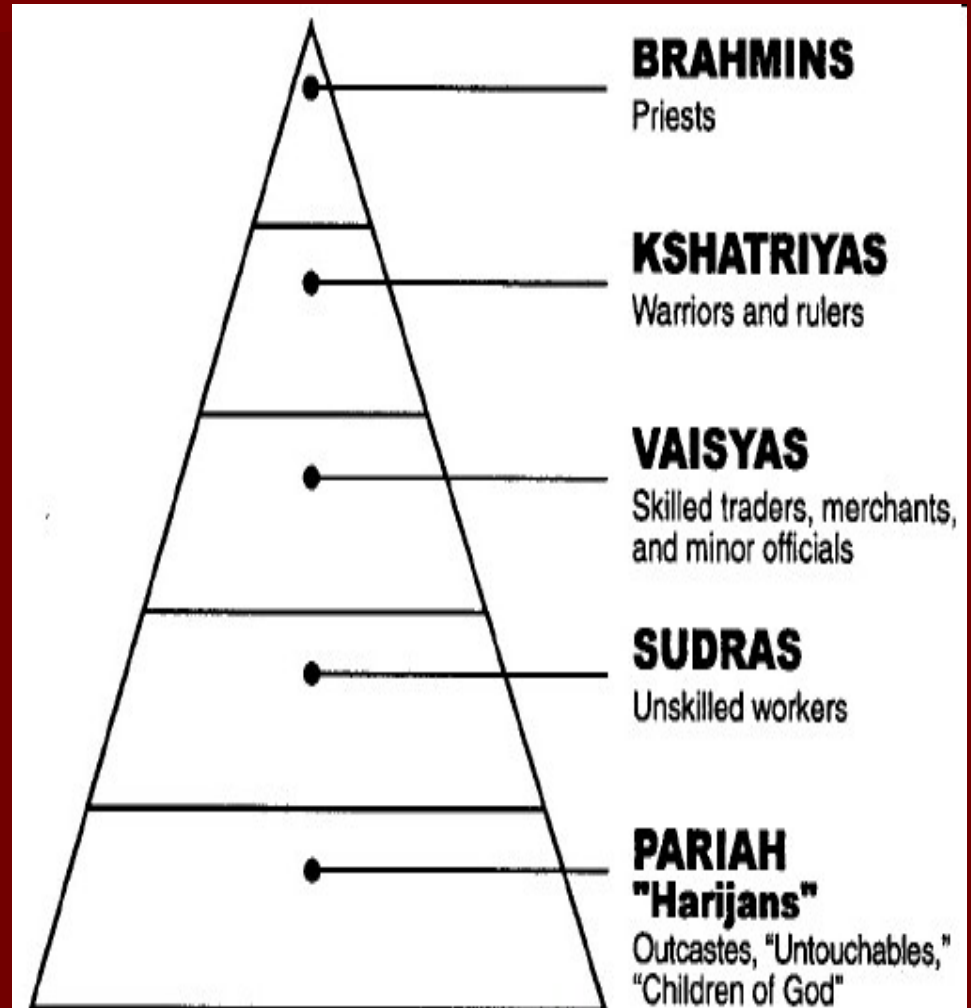
Islam

Taoism

Buddhism

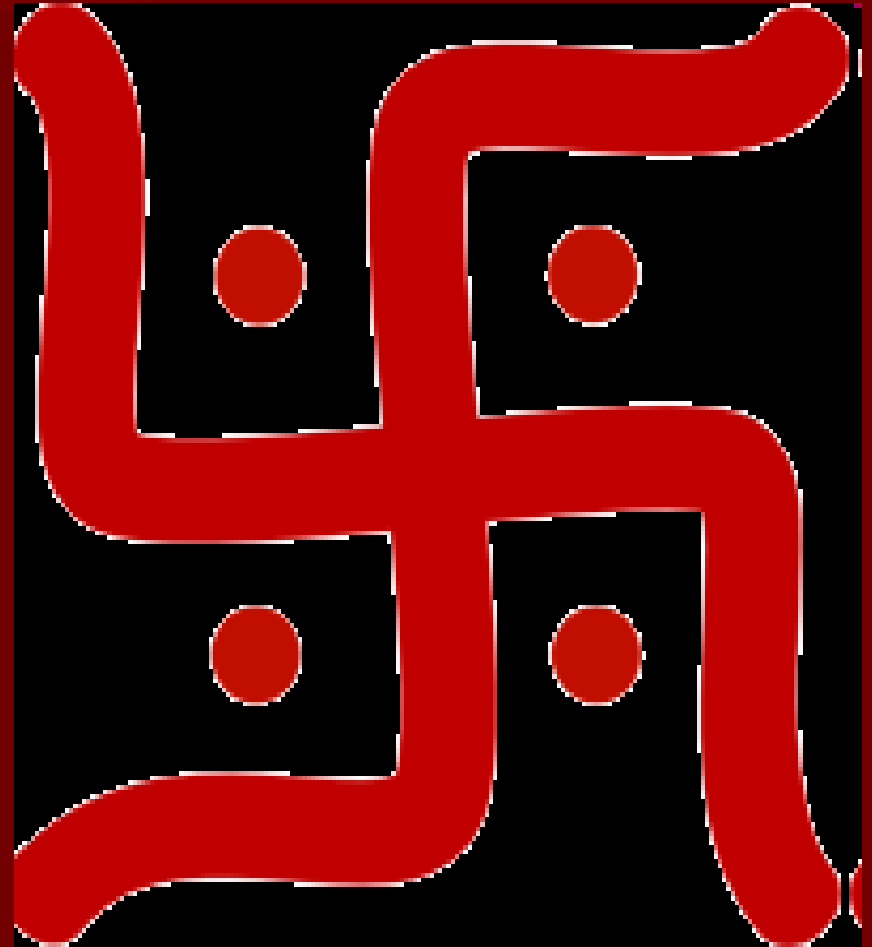
Hindusim

- Jatis- subdivision of castes (inner-caste marriage)
- Rank is linked to dharma



Symbols- Swastika

- Ancient symbol- good fortune and protection
- Means “auspicious”
- Protects from evil spirits and natural disasters
- Nazi symbol is the reverse of the Hindu swastika



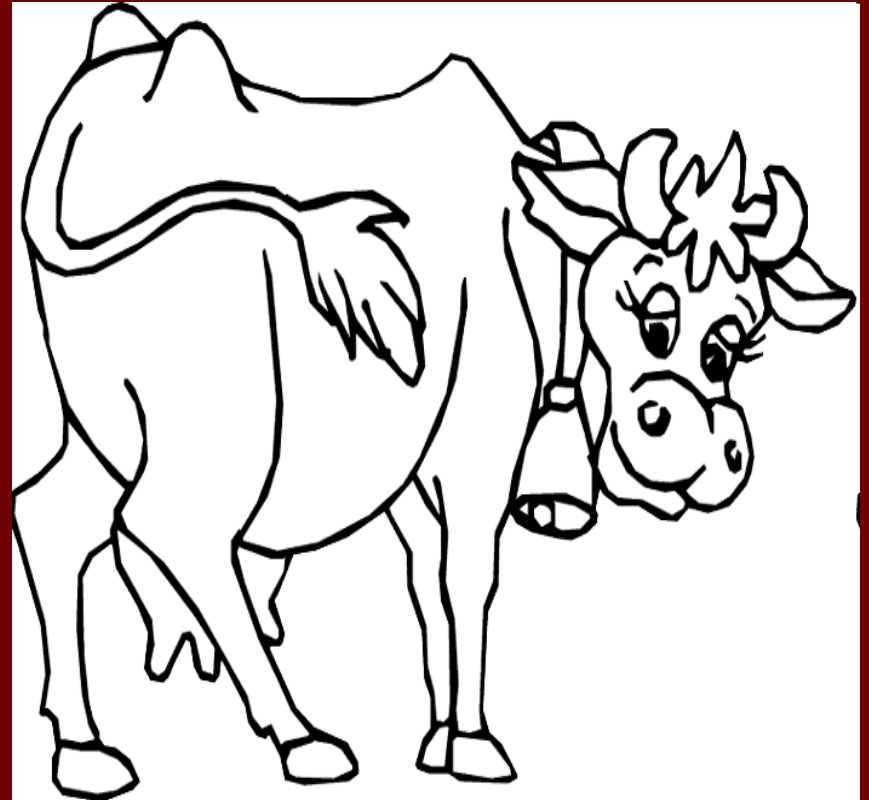
The Lotus



- Symbolizes birth of the universe
- Symbol of the sun
- Seat of Brahma

The Cow

- Lord Krishna created/Born from the ocean
- The earth approached God in the form of a cow
- Sacred- milk and butter (used in rituals)



Om or Aum



- Principle symbol
- Visual and oral representation of Brahmin
- “Pravana”- “that which is ever new”
- Hindus repeat to transcend their individual thoughts with God
 - Note: used in ALL Indian religions





- “That man is no friend who does not give of his own nourishment to his friend, the companion at his side. Let the friend turn away from him; this is not his dwelling place. Let him find another man who gives freely, even if he be a stranger” (Vedas 10:117)

Buddhism

- The 4 Noble truths:

- **1. Dukka: The Noble Truth of Suffering**

- Life is full of suffering and unhappiness. Although there are passing pleasures, they vanish in time

- 2. Samudaya: The Noble Truth of the Cause of Suffering**

- People suffer for one simple reason: they desire things. It is greed and self-centeredness which bring about suffering.

■ 3. Nirodha: The Noble Truth of the end of Suffering

- It is possible to end suffering if one is aware of his or her own desires and puts and end to them. The awareness will open the door to lasting peace

4. Magga: The Noble Truth of the Path

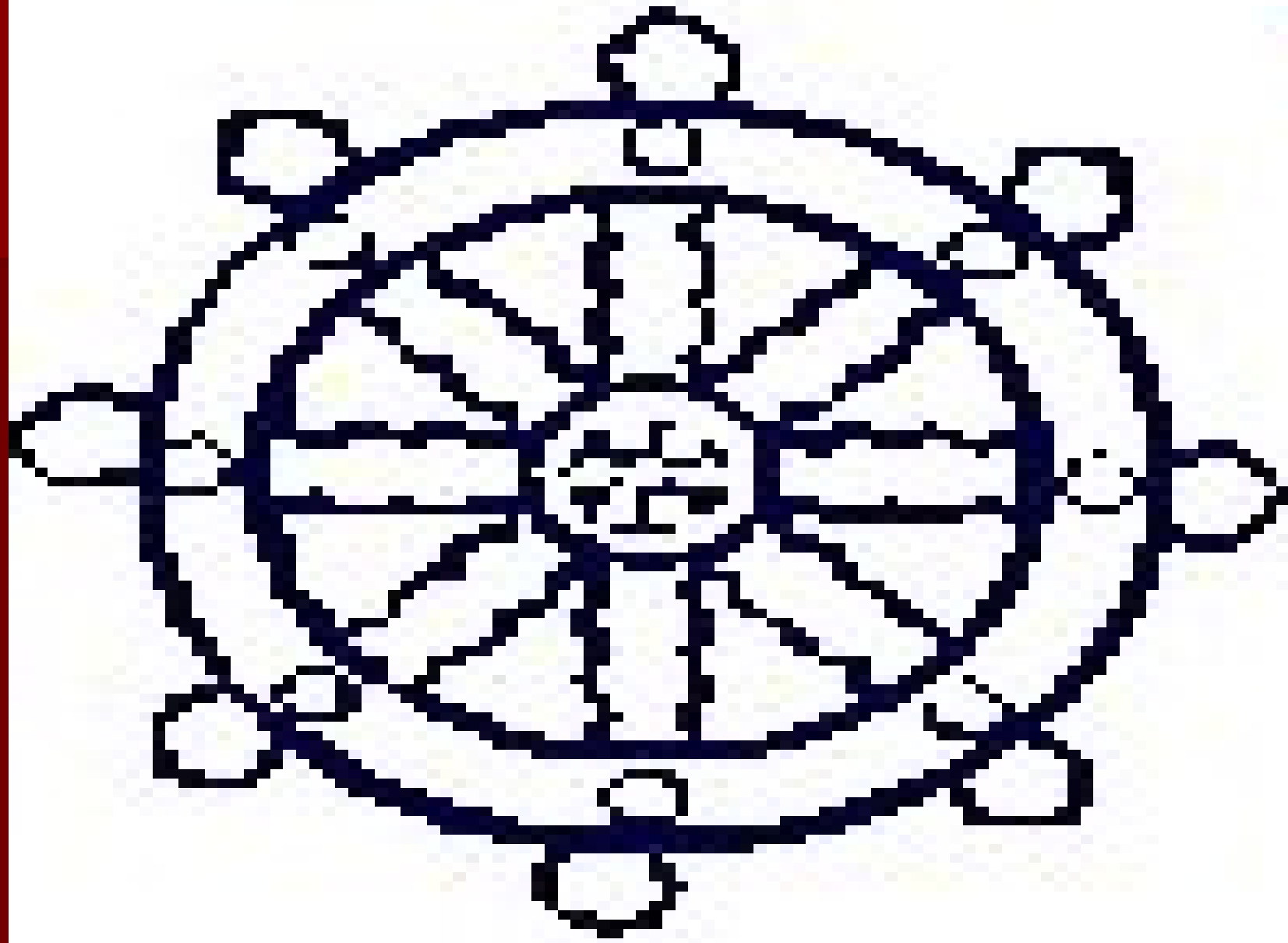
- By changing one's thinking and behavior, a new awakening can be reached. This is called the *Middle Way* and can be followed in the *Eightfold Path*

The Eightfold Path

- 1. Right Understanding- Strive to clearly understand the Four Noble Truths. Strive to understand the workings of your own mind
- 2. Right Thought- Think kindly of others and avoid dwelling on the past or future
- 3. Right Speech- Speak kindly and truthfully
- 4. Right Action- Act kindly towards all

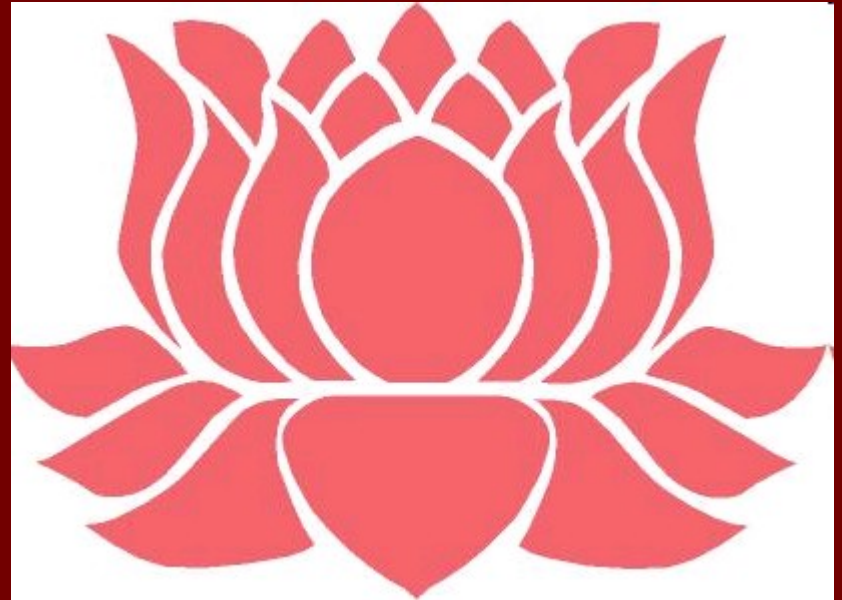
The Eightfold Path

- 5. Right Work- Have a vocation that does not harm others
- Right Effort- Be determined to cleanse the mind
- Right Mindfulness- Be fully aware of what you are doing, always with concern for others
- Right Concentration- Intensely concentrate during meditation to focus on being one with any situation



The Lotus

- Buddha on a Lotus
- Roots in the mud, flowers above water
- (Life of Buddha who journeyed through a troubled world, yet remained holy)



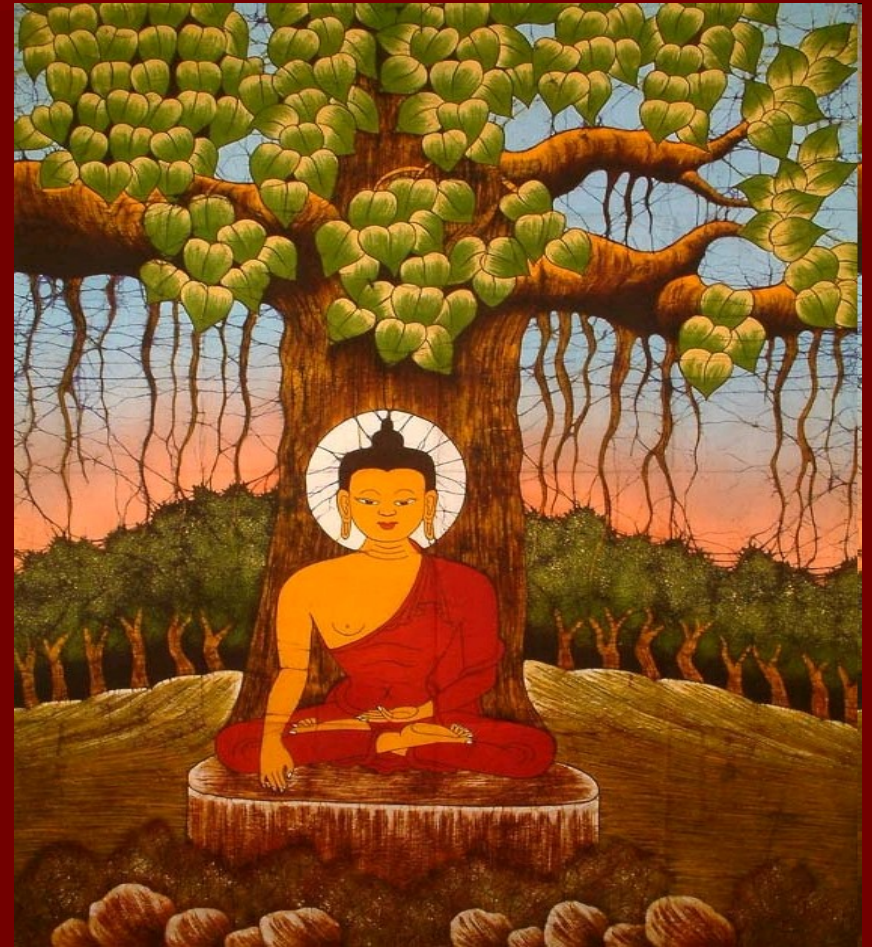
The White Elephant



- Symbolizes the birth of Prince Siddhartha
- Queen Maya's dream that her son would be great among men

The Bodhi Tree

- Where Prince Siddhartha attained nirvana
- Symbolizes Buddha's enlightenment



Not Wanting

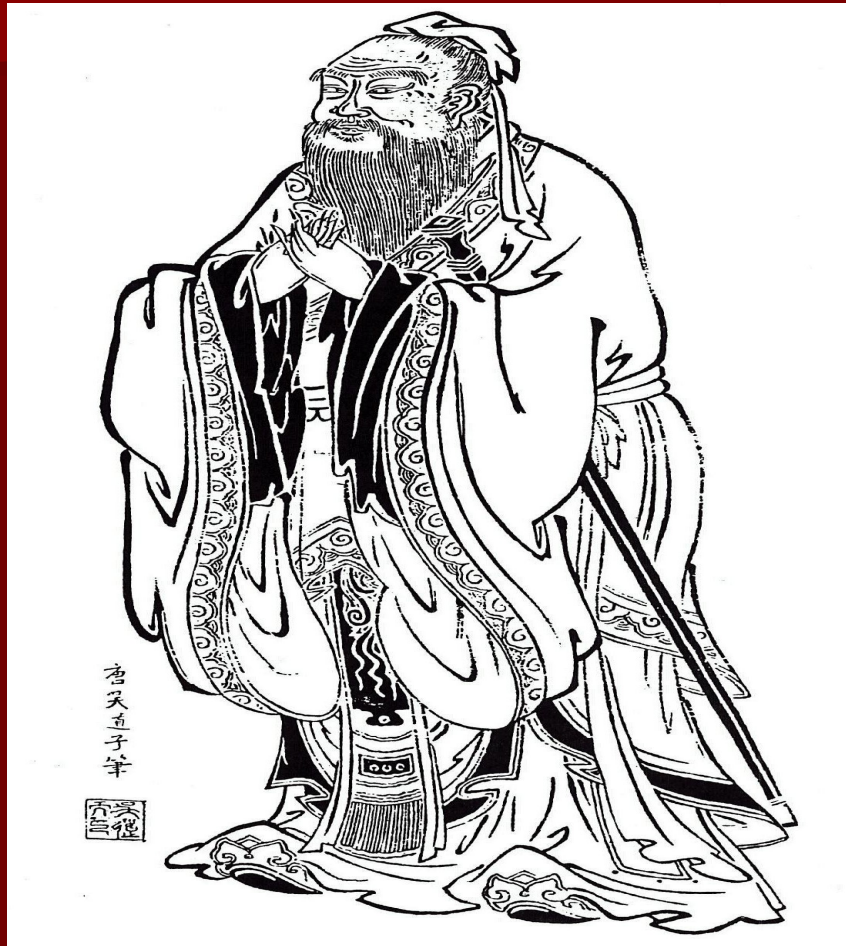


The five colors
blind our eyes.
The five notes
deafen our ears.
The five flavors
dull our taste.

Racing, chasing, hunting
drives people crazy.
Trying to get rich
ties people in knots.

So the wise soul
watches with the inner
not the outward eye,
letting that go,
keeping this.

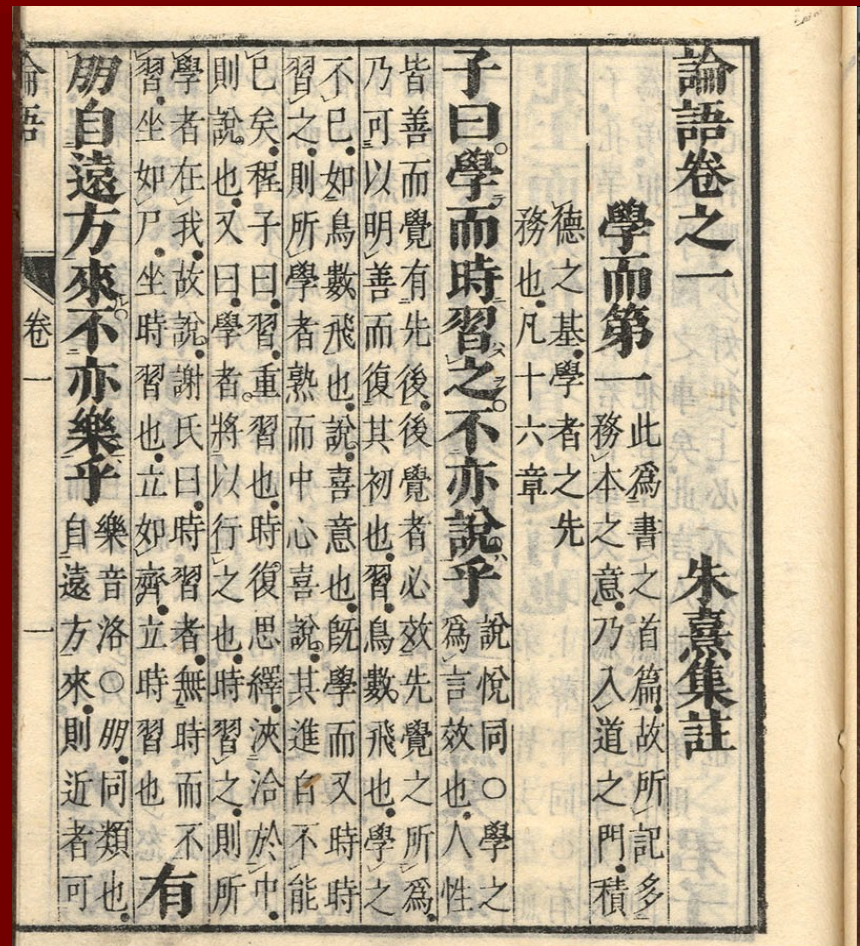
Confucianism



- King Confucian

Analects

- Respect your parents and ancestors
- The most important thing in life is to be a good person, even if it means sacrificing your life
- If a ruler is a good person, then the people who are ruled will be good as well
- People should cultivate their relationship, in this case the



Is Confucianism a religion?

Why or why not?

Juddaism

- Magen David
- King David's Shield
- Popular in the last 200 years



Torah

- Sacred Text
- First Five books of the bible



Mezuzah

- Right side of doorpost
- Have inscriptions



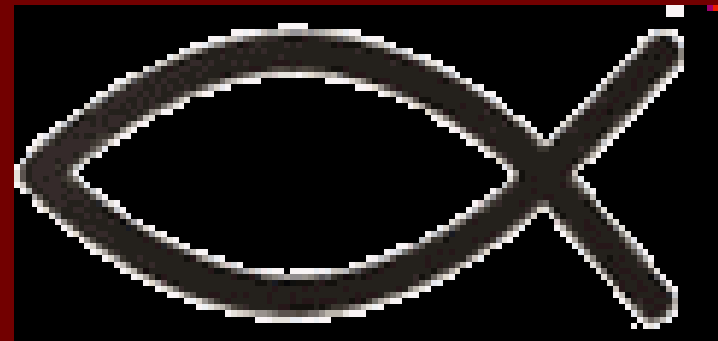
Kippah

- Yarmelka, or skull cap
- Men and women
- Signifies that humans are beneath, or dependent on God



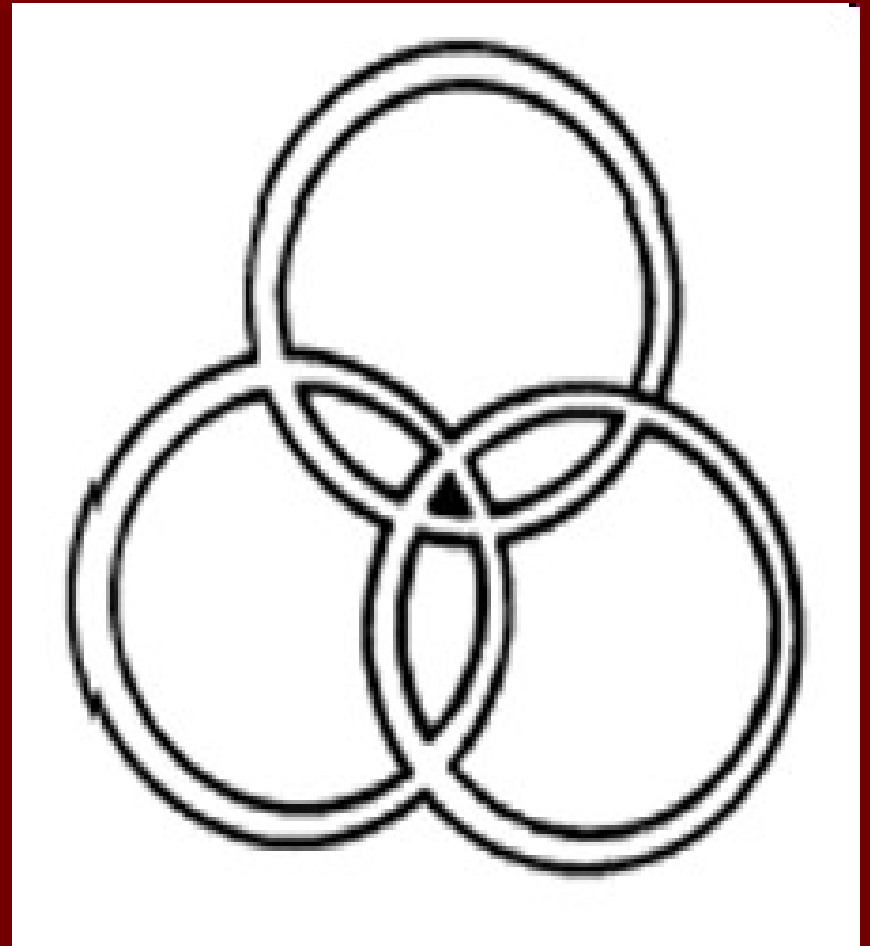
Christianity

- Icthus (Greek) contains the first letters of Jesus Christ, the symbol of the fish
- Secret symbol due to persecution



Linked circles

- Unity of God, Holy Trinity



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Islam

- Symbolizes the waxing moon increases with light and the star provides direction-like Islam guides the faithful towards Allah



Hand of Fatima

- Used in Jewish and Muslim cultures
- Also 5 pillars:

The '**Five Pillars**' of Islam are the foundation of Muslim life:

1. Faith or belief in the Oneness of God and the finality of the prophethood of Muhammad;
2. Establishment of the daily prayers;
3. Concern for and almsgiving to the needy;
4. Self-purification through fasting;
and
5. The pilgrimage to Makkah for those who are able.



Ka'bah

- Holiest place in Islam. It is the direction Muslims face during prayer.
- It is located in Mecca, in Saudi Arabia, in the

Al-Masjid al-Harām

